

# The Relational Practice Service

Rob Hamer Futures for Families Service Manager

Rob\_hamer@middlesbrough.gov.uk

Julie O'Connor Restorative Relational Practice Coordinator

Julie\_o'connor@middlesbrough.gov.uk

## What is the Relational Practice Service?

The Relational Practice Service (RPS) is a part of Futures for Families. The RPS offers job opportunities for care experienced and service connected young people aged 18 years plus, to allow them to use their past experiences to help other young people.

The Relational Practice Workers offer support and guidance to young people who are otherwise struggling to engage with other services. The workers form a trusted relationship with the young person, as a peer mentor, who they can express their thoughts, wishes and feelings to.

# The RPS's Mission and Values

- ▶ To develop resilience and empathy in young people and young adults through engaging with their personal experiences and those of others;
- ▶ To offer young people an opportunity to be Relational Practice advocates post training to support young people in a range of settings;
- ▶ To offer continued self-development for young people and young adults in effective communication;
- ▶ To offer training, work experience and career development opportunities to those employed within the service;
- ▶ The Relational Practice Workers engage with young people where other agencies have not been successful, and will act as a voice for the young person, encouraging reflection on their own current experience

# How this will fit in Futures for Families

- ▶ Relational Practice Workers will be supported by the Restorative Relational Practice Coordinator within Futures for Families.
- ▶ When employed these workers will be trained in a variety of qualifications - Mandatory Council and restorative / Relational / trauma informed approach
- ▶ The role will deliver Restorative Relational Practice support, complete mentoring work, and offer Asdan awards if appropriate.
- ▶ Gaining this experience will enable the Restorative Workers to apply for vacant roles within resource and residential teams.

# Interventions provided by the RPS

- ▶ Conflict resolution interventions led by young people and young adults supervised by the Relational Practice Service offering a variety of services
- ▶ Supporting young people with tenancy disputes (supporting Housing meetings)
- ▶ Group and circle work in Residential (supporting Residential meetings)
- ▶ Supporting relationship repair with those around a young person
- ▶ Supporting young people with issues of bullying
- ▶ Supporting young people in Schools
- ▶ Offering training and support to professionals
- ▶ Offering training to other young people and adults

